Commencement 2022
...14


# Chieftain

50 YEARS

VOLUME 51, NUMBER 7 | ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE | AUGUST 8, 2022

# ICC formally opens Magnolia Hall; ready for occupancy for fall

*Staff Reports*

Itawamba Community College formally opened its new residential facility, Magnolia Hall, with a ribbon cutting, July 14, at the Fulton Campus.

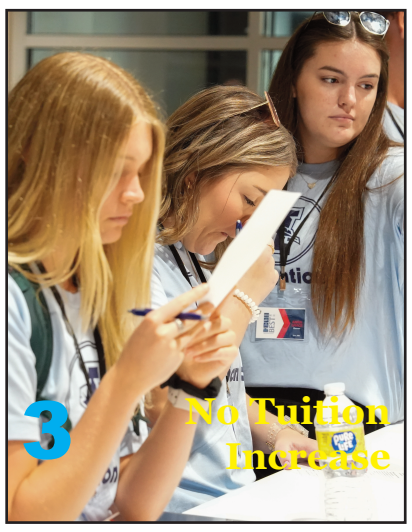
"I have had an opportunity to participate in several milestones since arriving here at ICC...the opening of the new Academic and Student Center on our Tupelo Campus, the naming of many different spaces across our locations...but very few as significant as this one," said ICC President Dr. Jay Allen.

"The opening of this innovative student-friendly residence hall will provide state-of-the-art housing accommodations for 246 additional ICC student leaders and scholars," Allen said. "Even with this additional number of beds, we still have more than 350 students on waiting lists for housing this fall.This simply reinforces the dire need of this hall."

The 72,000-square-foot three-story residence has customizable halls/wings for separated male and female occupancy and two efficiency apartments as well as one for the hall director.

"Not only will it provide modernized residential rooms and ample amounts of collaborative study space, but it also offers elevated security with this being a separated co-ed residential hall," Allen said. "This allows us the ability to customize each hall, wing and floor so it fits the needs of enrollment each semester." - ***See Magnolia Hall, page four.***

***For the latest news updates ..... See www.iccms.edu***



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## VIEWPOINT

CHLOE EVANS
*Staff Writer*

# *Endings and new beginnings*

As the academic school year comes to an end, we witness change in every facet of our lives. We might not notice at the time, but even the smallest alteration, turn and choice affect what we will do tomorrow.

Transferring sophomores attempt to slow down time and soak in all that ICC has to offer. As these students prepare to begin a new school year with a university or entering a career, I encourage you to take a moment to reminisce on your time at ICC. How has this college impacted you and how will you approach your next step?

Freshmen have the privilege of returning in the fall to continue their work at ICC. As a sophomore who is leaving, I advise returning freshmen to embrace change. This is your opportunity to make new friends, join clubs, dedicate time to a new project, make new goals and capture memories that will undoubtedly last a lifetime. If staying inside your residence hall was a habit that you want to change, make that change. If not asking questions in class negatively affected your GPA, make the first step with the new school year.

Incoming freshmen are about to spend their first days at ICC. Graduating from high school and coming to ICC is a big change. Adjusting to a different class schedule, being away from home and managing your time are just a few of the new experiences for these students. Acclimating to life at ICC is a process that all students go through and should embrace every minute. Becoming part of the ICC family is a blessing in disguise, and the mask will soon be removed for these students. By coming to annual events for the first time and learning the ins and outs of college life, incoming freshmen will soon be the new faces of ICC.

Out with the old, and in with the new. Teachers are accustomed to the constant routine of saying goodbye to students to whom they have grown close in the two years they have had them and happy to see the new faces that hold so much potential.

Every member of the ICC family, whether leaving, joining or staying, grow to love ICC more and more with each passing day. Grateful hearts and enriched minds walk around each location, thanks to the time and resources invested into each student.

As a transferring sophomore, I will hold on to every piece of advice, every enriching experience and every small moment that ICC has given me.

Moving on to my next step, I will share my ICC pride and embrace the changes ahead...After all, once an ICC Indian...always an ICC Indian!

The BEST do start here. - ***Reprinted from the April 2022 issue.***

# Letters
## TO THE EDITOR

*The Chieftain will print letters to the editor or guest commentaries. However, they must be signed and include a valid ICC email address and telephone number. Anonymous submissions will not be printed. The Chieftain reserves the right to print or reject letters or to edit them for clarity and space.*

**OPINION POLL**

## *What do you think...*

***"What is the impact of community colleges?"***

*"Yes, I go to community college. No, it isn't because I couldn't get in anywhere else."*
**Unknown**

*"Community colleges are one of America's greatest social inventions, a gateway to the future for first-time students looking for an affordable college education and for mid-career students looking to get ahead in the workplace."*
**Barbara Mikulski**

*"Community colleges play an important role in helping people transition between careers by providing the retooling they need to take on a new career."*
**Barack Obama**

*"For decades, community colleges have been the backbone of American workforce training because they are nimble and closely attuned to local community needs. They are inherently positioned to be influential leaders of the movement for a sustainable economy."*
**Ed Begley Jr.**

*"With the changing economy, no one has lifetime employment. but community colleges provide lifetime employability."*
**Barack Obama**

*"Community colleges are the great American invention in terms of education."*
**Eduardo J. Padron**

*"Many of my students don't know that I'm the second lady of the United States...because, you know, it's a community college."*
**Jill Biden**

**STAFF REPORTS**

## VIEWPOINT

DONNA THOMAS
*Adviser*

# Here's why the BEST start at ICC

You're heard of Walt Disney, Tom Hanks, Guy Fieri, Aaron Rodgers, Morgan Freeman and Eddie Murphy.

They are athletes, actors, famous chefs, and they are all famous.They have different backgrounds and separate pathways to success. But they all have one thing in common...they all attended community colleges.

ICC also has its share of "celebrities" who are listed among its alumni as well.

Some of them include professional football players Duce Staley, Tim Bowens, Pernell McPhee and Darius Slay; baseball players Desmond Jennings and Tim Dillard; Northern District Public Service Commissioner Brandon Presley; writers Peggy Webb and Merle Temple; former BASS Angler of the Year Timmy Horton and Auburn head baseball coach Butch Thompson.

Community colleges are a vital part of America's postsecondary education delivery system, serving almost half of the undergraduate students in the United States. Data from the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning shows that students who graduate from ICC and transfer to a university receive their degree with a grade point average above the state average and earn their college credentials with a higher GPA than students who begin their university studies their freshman year. ICC also ranks second in the state in producing more bachelor's degrees than any other community college, 12 short of first place, which is held by an institution that doubles our enrollment.

Community colleges, such as ICC enable students to graduate or complete their studies with minimal or no debt. Since roughly 400,000 people in the state have an average student loan debt of $33,182 and monthly payment of $225, that is remarkable!

The education, which ICC provides, goes beyond traditional bricks and mortar with the significant impact of online instruction and makes possible the attainment of a degree any time, any place, anywhere! The success of all of our ICC students is paramount!

Public community colleges are a uniquely American educational model that was designed to guarantee access to affordable, exceptional quality higher education for all people.

Beginning this month, ICC will celebrate its 75th anniversary. Its story has meager beginnings. ICC's first facilities were built from secondhand lumber on a dusty cotton and corn field in Itawamba County, and its first students included 170 veterans who were enrolled in college trade training for carpentry, brick and stone masonry, automobile mechanics and intensive business training.

Over the years, ICC has evolved into a premier institution with three exceptional locations: Belden, Fulton and Tupelo.

This year, ICC was selected among the 25 semifinalists for the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, a milestone in the award selection process. ICC was also selected as a top community college in 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2021, but this is the first time it has achieved semifinalist status.

Like community colleges throughout the nation, ICC is unique, and we could possibly be a bit biased, but we think it's the BEST anywhere.

And...the BEST do start here!

**Chieftain staff needed!**
**To apply, email dsthomas@iccms.edu**

Chieftain 50 VOLUME

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**The *Chieftain* is available online only and is posted three times each semester.**
**Views expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the faculty and administration.**

Itawamba Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate's degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Itawamba Community College.
*Itawamba Community College is an equal opportunity institution. The College strictly prohibits discrimination in its educational programs and activities, employment practices and admissions processes on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, ethnicity, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran or other status protected by applicable law.*
*For more information, contact the Vice President of Student Services, 602 West Hill Street, Fulton, MS 38843, 662.862.8271, or email TitleIXCoordinator@iccms.edu.*

# AD/PN programs to benefit from WFM grant

*Staff Reports*

Students in Itawamba Community College's Associate Degree Nursing and Practical Nursing programs again will have an opportunity to benefit from a significant grant from the Women's Foundation of Mississippi.

For the second consecutive year, the $40,000 Access to Opportunity - Training and Graduating a Healthcare Workforce for Mississippi grant will be divided between the ADN and PN programs based on relative progress enrollments, said Tonya Vaughn, dean of Health Science Instruction. Last year, 3 ADN and 19 PN students received funds.

During 2021-22,recipients of the grant money expressed their appreciation for their selection. Among the uses for the funds included purchase of a new computer that was comptible with technology used in the nursing program, payment for the NCLEX review and application, vehicle tires for less hazardous travel to and from school and clinics and childcare to enable continued enrollment.

Students in their final year/semester of their nursing program will be informed of this grant during the beginning of the fall semester, Vaughn said. Those who would like to be considered for the grant will complete an application and sign a consent form for FAFSA data to be accessed. Selection will be based on lowest estimated financial contribution and income level and the greatest number of dependents.

Students who are selected will be awarded $800.

This targeted, need-based funding will allow students near graduation to be able to pay for expenses such as NCLEX review courses, licensing exams and gaps in other financial aid awards that could prevent them from finishing their programs, Vaughn said.

The grant will be evaluated through student satisfaction surveys.

"Itawamba Community College is sincerely grateful to the Women's Foundation of Mississippi for this grant that will enable ICC's Associate Degree Nursing and Practical Nursing students to enhance their opportunity to complete their programs," said ICC President Dr. Jay Allen."It will assist in removing financial barriers that could prevent students from attaining their dream of preparing for the workforce as healthcare professionals."

In addition to Rilla Jones, former dean of Health Science Instruction, Associate Degree Nursing program director Dr. Dana Walker, Practical Nursing program director Dr.Lisa Pearson and Pathways coordinator Josh Gammill submitted the grant proposal.

**Members of ICC's Indian Delegation participate in a beginning of the year retreat. Among the information they will share with recruits includes ICC's no tuition increase this fall.**

# *ICC continues to make education affordable with no tuition increase*

*Staff Reports*

When Itawamba Community College begins its fall semester in mid-August, there will be no tuition increase.

"We realize that with the economy and price increases, such as fuel, now more than ever, the College needs to make extra sacrifices to meet the needs of the people we serve," according to ICC President Dr. Jay Allen.

"By not increasing tuition, Itawamba Community College can continue to make education more affordable to help families during these stressful economic times," Allen said.

Again this summer, ICC extended its workday hours from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Mondays-Thursdays, and closed on Fridays to conserve energy, which was especially important during the extreme heat during June and July. The College also reviews each employee departure and evaluates if a reorganization and absorption of duties is a better fit for the College at that time or should the position be rehired. "Like our business partners and private citizens, ICC is doing more with less," Allen said. "ICC continues to attempt to remove barriers and increase access to education while maintaining its reputation for academic excellence."

In addition to maintaining its tuition level, several other options have been implemented to ensure students have an opportunity to continue their education through a more transparent process with the streamlining of student fees. Instead of numerous individual fees, a combined single student fee will begin this fall for part-time and full-time students. The fee includes one for student activities that will be utilized for expanded programing for student groups at all three ICC locations, Allen said. Room and board costs were adjusted for an updated residence hall tier pricing list.

In June, Allen announced salary increases for those who were employed at ICC on or before April 30. "This increase is attributed not only to our Board of Trustees, but to the state legislature for additional funding that was provided for raises. The extra funding made it possible to give raises without increasing tuition."

Board of Trustees Chairman Gill Simmons of Tupelo commended ICC administrators who, through strategic expenditures, have made this significant step to continue to make education affordable possible. "With today's economy and high gas prices, it is imperative that ICC provide this much-needed assistance to students, who are our number one priority."

Eight counties, including Benton, Calhoun, Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee, Monroe and Pontotoc continue to participate in ICC's guaranteed tuition program to ensure high school graduates in these localities have the opportunity to attend for a minimal cost. The program covers funding up to the cost of tuition and registration fee if no other aid is available. In addition, adult learners can take advantage of scholarships especially designated to assist with either their return to ICC or enrollment as new students.

Registration is continuing for the fall semester during normal business hours as well as special open sessions, August 10, 11 and 12.

# Stevenson, Vaughn have new roles at Itawamba Community College

*Staff Reports*

Beginning July 1, Tonya Vaughn of Mantachie and Chris Stevenson of Fulton have new roles at Itawamba Community College.

Vaughn is the dean of Health Science Instruction, and Stevenson, dean of Academic Instruction.

Vaughn, who is an alumnus of ICC, earned the bachelor's degree from the University of North Alabama and the master's degree from Western Governor's University. She has been employed at ICC for 25 years, previously serving as director of the Surgical Technology program. Vaughn's professional memberships are the Association of Surgical Technologists, Mississippi Board of Nursing, Association of Surgical Technology (curriculum writing team), Association of Career Technical Educators, Career Technical Officers Association and advisory committee for Pontotoc and Itawamba County Allied Health. During her tenure with ICC, Vaughn has been instrumental in coordinating efforts with healthcare partners, including all sites of the North Mississippi Medical Center, Specialty Orthopedic Group, Baptist Memorial Hospital facilities, Magnolia Regional in Corinth and the OCH Regional Medical Center in Starkville. She attends Connect Church in Tupelo. Married to Richard Vaughn, she has two sons, David and Wilson Knight, and two grandchildren, Tripp and Paisleigh Knight.

**Tonya Vaughn**

**Chris Stevenson**

Stevenson, who has been an employee of ICC since August, 2010, served as chair of the Social Science Division since the 2017 fall semester. He was a full-time instructor of American History I and II and will continue to do so on a regular basis. His past employment includes social studies teacher and football coach with three different school districts within ICC's five-county district. He was raised in Guntown, and after graduating from Saltillo High School, he attended ICC for two years before transferring to Mississippi State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education and social studies. Following his graduating from MSU, Stevenson accepted a graduate assistantship with the University of Mississippi Athletic Department and worked extensively with the football program. While at Ole Miss, he earned the master's degree in higher education and student personnel. Subsequently he has earned 21 additional graduate hours from Ole Miss and Delta State University. Stevenson is married to the former Jessi Parker from Bruce, who is also an ICC instructor. They have two sons, Rourke and Riley. He and his family are members of the Gumtree Presbyterian Church in Tupelo, where he is a deacon and the head of the church security team.

**Welcome back to ICC!!**

# FYI
## MAKE A NOTE OF IT

## ICC schedules open registration

*Staff Reports*

Itawamba Community College has scheduled open registration for the 2022 fall semester.

Options include Aug. 10 from 1-5 p.m. on both the Fulton and Tupelo campuses; Aug. 11 from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on the Fulton Campus and 8 a.m.-6 p.m. on the Tupelo Campus; and Aug. 12 from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on both the Fulton and Tupelo campuses. Locations are the Academic and Student Center on the Tupelo Campus and the David C. Cole Student Services Building on the Fulton Campus.

Traditional full-term day and first eight-week classes begin Aug. 15; and eLearning full-term and first eight-week classes, Aug. 22.

Financial aid is available as well as adult learner scholarships.

Academic, career education, eLearning (online) and workforce opportunities are available in an extensive schedule, which includes both day and evening classes at Fulton, Tupelo and Belden. Instructional options include both face-to-face and online. Students may attend classes on a four-day instructional schedule to provide an opportunity for a three-day weekend.

## Pathways classes to begin in September at ICC-Belden

*Staff Reports*

Itawamba Community College has scheduled several pathways classes to begin in September at the Belden Center (3200 Adams Farm Rd.).

They include Small Engine Repair, Sept. 6-Oct. 27, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-9 p.m.; Introduction to Welding and Cutting, September 6-Oct. 6, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-9 p.m.; Residential Wiring, Sept. 6-Oct. 6, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-9 p.m.; Distribution Associate, Sept. 12-29, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m.-noon; Basic Construction, Sept. 19-30, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and Electrician Assistant, Sept, 19-Oct. 13, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Additional opportunities are available including Human Resource Assistant, Introduction to Industrial Maintenance, Manufacturing Skills Basic Certification and Quality Improvement Associate.

For more information about classes or to register, call (662) 407-1569 or pathways@iccms.edu.

**Dr. Brandi McCraw, left, and TZ Waters. recently completed the Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program. McCraw received the CPFP 2021 Cohort Outstanding Fellow Award.**

# McCraw, Waters complete MCCF Program

*Staff Reports*

Itawamba Community College's Dr. Brandi McCraw of Fulton, Instructional Coordinator, and TZ Waters of Tupelo, director of Workforce Education, have completed the Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program.

### ADDITIONAL HONOR

In addition, McCraw was selected as the recipient of the Mississippi CPFP 2021 Cohort Outstanding Fellow Award, which recognizes those who have displayed distinctive leadership and meritorious service to their profession through participation in the CPFP program. They were selected by their peers.

The CPFP program is designed to give Fellows first-hand high-level experience with the workings of the Federal government and to increase their sense of participation in national affairs, according to Tyson Elbert, founder and executive director of Advocacy Build, LLC and senior fellow of The Medgar and Myrlie Evers Institute, who presented the awards. It requires Fellows to dedicate time away from their professional responsibilities, but also from their families, communities and social commitments.

### DR. BRANDI MCCRAW

McCraw, who has been at ICC since 2008, has also served as switchboard operator, Student Services receptionist, administrative assistant to the dean of eLearning Instruction, eLearning adviser and eLearning coordinator. Her educational background includes the associate's degree from ICC, bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi and both the master's and doctoral degrees from Mississippi State University. She is a member of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Fulton, where she assists as an Awana kitchen worker on Wednesday nights.

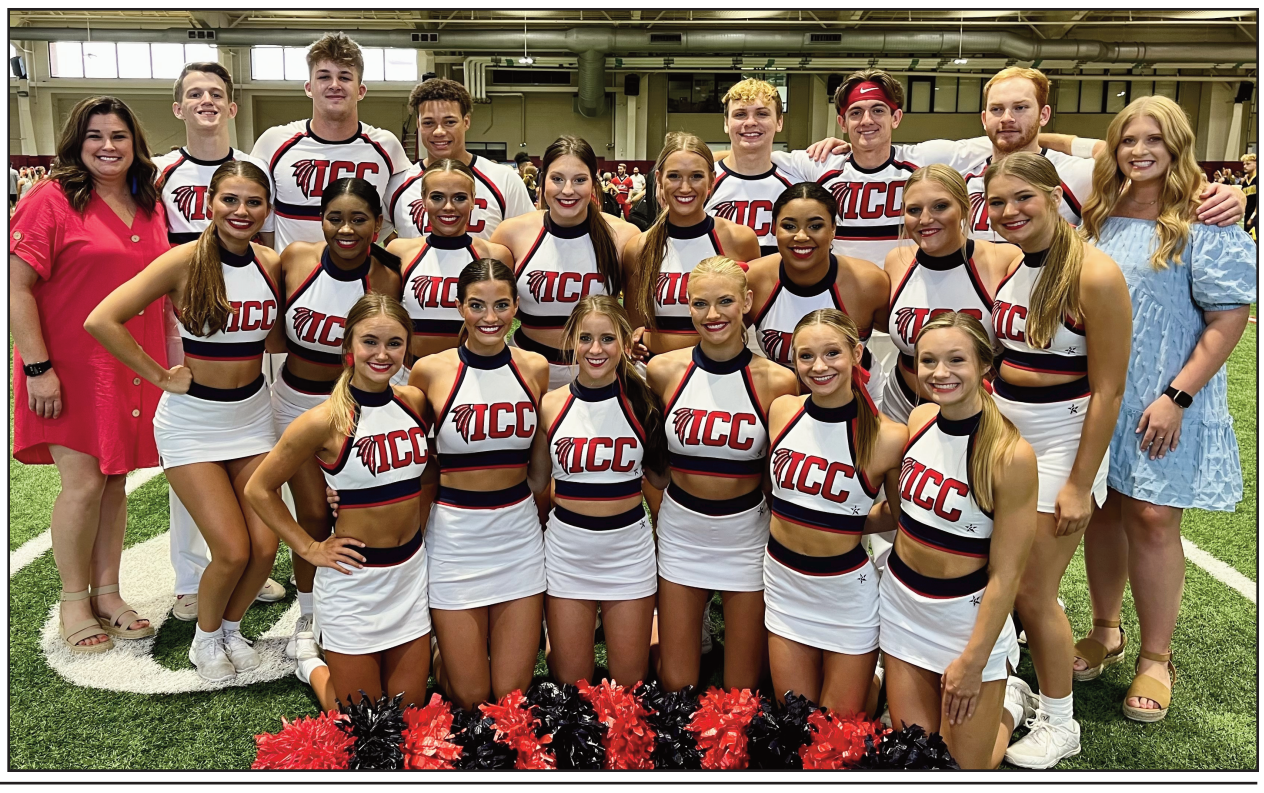
### TZ WATERS

Waters' background includes seven years of working in manufacturing and more than 10 years of workforce training as a trainer. Prior to ICC, she worked as a quality and engineering manager and as an industrial engineer in the manufacturing industry. She has taught workforce classes in ergonomics, lean manufacturing, quality management and Asian Business Culture. She is a DDI®-certified facilitator and provides leadership training to businesses.

***- See MCCF, page seven.***

## *ICC selects cheerleaders for 2022-23*

**ICC's cheerleaders for 2022-23 include Madison Dillard, Alantyon Swinney, Annasia Berry, Kate Gann, Elizabeth Gann, Rylie Ozbirn, Carley Bell, Zoe Bigham, Macey Thomas, Emily Clowers, Tiffany Bishop, Kiara McCord, Kage Heberling, John Bucy Long, Logan McBrayer, Jamison Parker, Chance Brewer, Aidan Little, Emelia Ferrell, Bella Holiman and manager Jed Fitts. Katelynn Stidham is the sponsor.**




## Magnolia Hall
### *From page one*

Among the features of the facility are televisions that can be mirrored to student computers, the latest HVAC and lighting controls and a new system that allows entry via student ID card.

Requirements for residence include a preferred ACT score of 24, maintaining a 3.0 GPA and active in ICC student involvement/leadership opportunities.

"Magnolia Hall has truly enhanced the curb appeal of the Fulton Campus and will prove to be an asset to ICC, the City of Fulton and our service district as a whole," Allen said.

WAR Construction, Inc. of Tuscaloosa, Ala. was the general contractor, and PryorMorrow PC, the architect.

Tours followed the ceremony.

#THEBESTSTARTHERE

# Meeting Room
## CLUB NEWS & CALENDAR

### FULTON CAMPUS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Archery Club | Ethan Cruse | 862.8233 |
| Art Club | Shawn Whittington | 862.8301 |
| Bass Club | Dylan Hart | 862.8333 |
| *Chieftain* | Donna Thomas | 862.8244 |
| Comm. Chiefs | Jessi Stevenson | 862.8308 |
| Computer Club | Bradley Howard | 862.8140 |
| Disc Golf | discgolf@iccms.edu | |
| Diversity Club | Dr. Michelle Sumerel | 862.8050 |
| Educators Rising | Chris Cox | 862.8181 |
| | Bobby Jarrell | 862.8183 |
| Fashion Tribe | Taylor Tutor | 862.8281 |
| | C.J. Adams | 862.8074 |
| Forestry Club | Emily Loden Jones | 862.8147 |
| ICC Films | Morgan Cutturini | 862.8167 |
| ICC Honors College | Robin Lowe | 862.8166 |
| | Heather McCormick | 862.8191 |
| ICC Orient. Leaders | Michael Holloway | 620.5278 |
| Indian Delegation | Michael Holloway | 620.5278 |
| Man UP | Dr. Michelle Sumerel | 662.8050 |
| *Mirror* | C.J. Adams | 862.8074 |
| Modern Language | Anna Begnaud | 862.8292 |
| Phi Theta Kappa | Robin Lowe | 862.8166 |
| | Bradley Howard | 620,5329 |
| | Jay Humphries | 862.8381 |
| Political Science | Megan Eidt | 620.5044 |
| Sigma Kappa Delta | Keith Morris | 862.8326 |
| | Anna Begnaud | 862.8292 |
| | Jenny Bowers | 620.5112 |
| | Dr. Ashley Craig | 862.8326 |
| | Nathan Ward | 862.8164 |
| Social Media Amb. | Maggie Caldwell | 862.8241 |
| Student Act. Board | Taylor Tutor | 862.8281 |
| STEM | Bradley Howard | 862.8140 |
| | Heather McCormick | 862.8191 |
| | Dr. Jada Mills | 862.8369 |
| Student Gov. Assn. | Dr. Chad Case | 862.8232 |
| | Dr. Brad Boggs | 862.8271 |
| | Taylor Tutor | 862.8181 |
| Theatre | Dr. Laurie McBride | 862.8307 |
| Travel Tribe | Jessi Stevenson | 862.8308 |
| | Dr. Edana Nail | 862.8056 |
| | Chris Stevenson | 862.8169 |

### TUPELO CAMPUS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Archery Club | Ethan Cruse | 862.8233 |
| Bass Club | Dylan Hart | 862.8333 |
| Comp. Prog./Net. | Dr. Delena Hukle | 620.5163 |
| | Cindy Layman | 620.5116 |
| Disc Golf | Michelle Pruitt | 862.8296 |
| Diversity Club | Dr. Michelle Sumerel | 862.8050 |
| Fashion Tribe | Taylor Tutor | 862.8281 |
| | C.J. Adams | 862.8074 |
| Future Rad. Tech. | Dr. Paul Crum | 620.5233 |
| Future Resp. Ther. | Adam Denton | 620.5238 |
| Indian Delegation | Michael Holloway | 620.5278 |
| Legal Ed. Assn. | Haley Carpenter | 620.5342 |
| | Dr. Bo Rowland | 620.5340 |
| MOSA | Dr. Tamar Lucas | 620.5218 |
| | Dr. Lauren Asters | 620.5208 |
| NCF | Linda Bond | 620.5210 |
| OTA | Dee Dee Lomenick | 620.5026 |
| Phi Theta Kappa | Jenny Bowers | 620.5045 |
| | Dr. Delena Hukle | 620.5163 |
| | Dr. Ira Lindsay Jones | 620.5043 |
| STEM Club | Heather McCormick | 862.8191 |
| | Dr. Jada Mills | 862.8369 |
| | Bradley Howard | 862.8140 |
| Student Gov. Assn. | Hannah Moroney | 620.5016 |
| | Taylor Tutor | 862.8281 |
| SHIMA | Donna Vaughn | 620.5123 |
| Student PTA Club | Dr. Cheryl Ware | 620.5025 |
| Travel Tribe | Jessi Stevenson | 862.8308 |
| | Dr. Edana Nail | 862.8056 |
| | Chris Stevenson | 862.8169 |

### RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| BSU | Chris Burrows | 862.3278 |
| FCA | Scott Nicholson | nicholson@fca.org |
| Wesley Foundation | Zac Cox | 255.2339 |

***For more information on ICC clubs and organizations, www.iccms.edu.***

## Travel Tribe sponsors Italy trip in May 2023

ICC students have an opportunity to join the Travel Tribe in May 2023 for a tour of Rome and Florence, Italy.

According to cosponsor Jessi Stevenson, a few spots remain for the trip.

To enroll, students can visit Travel Tribe sponsors in the Academic Building 105/202 at the Fulton Campus or Academic and Student Center 224 at the Tupelo Campus or www.efcst.com/247206MW. A deposit of $95 is required to enroll in an automatic payment plan.

# Fashion Tribe
## After 10 year absence, group showcases clothes from the decades

## Students earn high school equivalency credential

*Staff Reports*

Several individuals earned high school equivalency credentials during a commencement ceremony at the ICC Fulton Campus in the Davis Event Center.

They include

**Aberdeen** - Sophia Martin, Abigail Moore, Jazlyn Pitre;

**Amory** - Sarah Daniels, Wesley Hall, Marquavius Shumpert, Cohen Troller;

**Baldwyn** - Alexsus Johnson;

**Ecru** - Riley Baldwin, Tatianna Harmon, Kaylee Smith;

**Fulton** - Brenda Hughes, Christopher Morgan;

**Guntown** - La'Darrius Fair, Alyssa McKenzie, Teresa Parker;

**Houston** - Krysten Mejia, Nathan Mitchell;

**Mantachie** - Ronald Cooper, Thomas Jordan, Kaileb Thackerson, Taylor Thackerson;

**Mantee** - Keith Doss,

**Mooreville** - Cy Hester, Mason McGillivray, Cohen Orsborn;

**Nettleton** - Taylor Brown, Adrianna Cook, Janiya Rogers, Jawuan Rogers, Allyah Young;

**Pontotoc** - Kayla Cox, Avery Kirk, Sean Mooneyham, Brooklyn Morris, Brelyn Pittman, Ana Karen Portugal, Ericka Smith, Gavin Walls, Kylee Whitt, Tiffany Wray;

**Randolph** - Travis Morris;

**Saltillo** - Sydney Bell, Kylee Ethridge, Jackson Phillips, Abigail Willard;

**Shannon** - Joseph Davis, Alexandria Gregory-Price;

**Tremont** - Brayden Hostler;

**Tupelo** - Mackenzi Brazeal, Ricky Burchfield, Jose Angel Chavez Torrez, Iyanna Daniel, Xavier Dumas, Brian Guspan, Stacy Guspan, George Hill, Lawrence Hill, Daniel Lowry, Christina Nichols, Joshua Petigo, Alijah Richey, Hugh Stone, Toya Sturdivant, James Williams, Rochelle Windham, Siera Wojtylko;

**Vardaman** - Karla Gonzalez; and

**Verona** - Sherry Prestage.

# Want To Know More?

## FULTON CAMPUS

| Information on | Contact |
|---|---|
| Academic Honors | Admissions |
| Activities Calendar | V.P. of Student Services |
| Admissions/Records | Admissions |
| Advanced Placement | V.P. of Instructional Services |
| Athletics | Athletic Director |
| Band | Band Director |
| Books/Supplies | Bookstore |
| Career Planning | Adviser/Advising Center |
| Car Registration Decals | Campus Police |
| Change of Adviser/Major | Advising Center |
| Change in Curriculum | Adviser/Student Affairs |
| Counseling | Student Affairs |
| Counseling (Personal) | V.P. of Student Services |
| Course Placement | V.P. of Instructional Services |
| Evaluation of Credits | Admissions |
| Examinations | Instructor |
| Faculty Office Hours | Instructor |
| Graduation Req. | Admissions |
| I.D. Cards | Student Affairs |
| Intramurals/Activities | Coor. of Student Activities |
| Library | Director of Libraries |
| Log-Ins/PINs | TIS Help Desk |
| Parking | Campus Police |
| Part-Time Jobs | Student Affairs |
| Placement Testing | Student Affairs |
| Publicity/Publications | Community Relations |
| Registration | Admissions |
| Schedule Changes | Adviser |
| Schedule Planning | Adviser |
| Scholarships | Financial Aid |
| Student Aid/Work Study | Financial Aid |
| Student Government | Coor. of Student Activities |
| Student Organizations | Sponsors |
| Summer School | Student Affairs |
| Testing (Career) | V.P. of Instructional Services |
| Transcripts | Career Center |
| Tuition, Fees, Deferrals | Admissions |
| Use of Campus Property | Business office |
| Veterans Affairs | V.P. of Student Services |
| | Financial Aid |

## TUPELO CAMPUS

| | |
|---|---|
| Admissions/Records | Student Affairs |
| Advanced Placement Credit | VP, Instructional Services |
| Books and Supplies | Bookstore |
| Career Planning | Adviser/Career Center |
| Car Registration/Decals | Campus Police |
| Counseling | Student Affairs |
| Evaluation of Credits | Admissions |
| I.D. Cards | Student Affairs |
| Job Placement | Career Center |
| Library | Library |
| Log-Ins/PINs | TIS Help Desk |
| Parking | Campus Police |
| Registration/Early-Reg. | Student Affairs |
| Schedule Planning | Student Affairs |
| Scholarships | Financial Aid |
| Student Activities | Student Affairs |
| Student Aid | Financial Aid |
| Student Government | Coor. of Student Activities |
| Transcripts | Student Affairs |
| Tuition and Fees | Business office |
| Veterans Affairs | Financial Aid |

## BELDEN CENTER

| | |
|---|---|
| Adult Ed./High School Equivalency | Linzy Patterson |
| Continuing Education | Debi Martin |
| WIOA | Brad Gates |
| Workforce | Barry Emison |

***Contact information available at www.iccms.edu by clicking on the area of interest or by searching the college directory at the same location.***

# ICC updates move-in for residence halls

*Staff Reports*

Move-in times for residence halls have been updated.

The Magnolia Hall schedule includes sophomores, 9 a.m.-noon and freshmen, 1-5 p.m., Aug. 13; and Sheffield Hall, sophomores, 9 a.m.-noon and freshmen, 1-5 p.m., Aug. 14.

All other students will move in according to the following schedule: sophomores, Aug. 13, 1-5 p.m. and freshmen, Aug. 14, 1-5 p.m.

For more information, contact Student Housing at housing@iccms.edu.

ICC's CPRAM award recipients include, from left, Raphael Henry, Morgan Henry, C.J. Adams, Nina Strother, Lee Adams, Donna Thomas and Adam Gore. Not pictured is Maggie Caldwell.

# ICC staff members receive CPRAM awards

*Staff Reports*

Several Itawamba Community College staff members have received awards from the College Public Relations Association of Mississippi.

They include

**C.J. Adams** of Fulton - first place, digital Art/Photo Illustration for Autumn Leaf; second place, Public Relations Campaign for ICC eLearning Regional Campaign; first place, Photograph for Snow Day; second place, Annual Report for 2020-2021 ICC President's Report; first place, Viewbook for Orientation Booklet; first place, Creative Partners for Ignite the Fight Against Breast Cancer Awareness; second place, Institutional Magazine for Connection; second place, New Media for Inside ICC; first place, Public Relations Innovations for Online Commencement Practice; first place and grand award, Web Page for New ICC Home Page – www.iccms.edu; third place, Television Spots for Live and Learn commercial; and first place, Advertisement for Veterans Day ad;

**Lee Adams** of Fulton – second place, Sports Photography for Welcome Home; first place, Web page – Sports Only for www.letsgoicc.com; third place, Single Piece of Artwork – Sports for Softball Champions; first place, Single Piece of Artwork – Sports for Harding Champion; second place, Annual Report for 2020-2021 ICC President's Report; third place, Feature Story – Sports for Former ICC Baseball Standout Houston Harding Helps Mississippi State to First National Title; second place, Institutional Magazine for Connection; and second place, New Media for Inside ICC;

**Dr. Jay Allen** of Fulton – second place, Annual Report for 2020-2021 ICC President's Report;

**Maggie Caldwell** of Mooreville – second place, Public Relations Campaign for ICC eLearning Regional Campaign; second place, Social Media for Home Away from Home TikTok Series; first place, Creative Partners for Ignite the Fight Against Breast Cancer Awareness; second place, Institutional Magazine for Connection; and second place, New Media for Inside ICC;

**Tyler Camp** of Mantachie – second place, Annual Report for 2020-2021 President's Report;

**Anna Funderburk** of Thaxton – second place, Public Relations Campaign for Home Away from Home TikTok Series;

**Adam Gore** of Fulton – first place, Web Page – Sports Only for www.letsgoicc.com; first place, Radio Programs for The ICC Hour with Adam Gore; first place, Radio Spots for 2021 Summer Camps; and second place, Annual Report for 2020-2021 ICC President's Report;

**Maclaine Griffith** of Pontotoc – first place, Digital Art/Photo Illustration for Autumn Leaf;

**Melissa Haab** of Louisville – first place, Viewbook for Orientation Booklet;

**Amanda Hartfield** of Fulton – third place, Television Spots for Live and Learn Commercial;

**Jake Hartfield** of Fulton – first place, Viewbook for Orientation Booklet; and third place, Television Spots for Live and Learn Commercial;

**Morgan Henry** of Pontotoc – second place, Public Relations Campaign for ICC eLearning Regional Campaign; and second place, New Media, for Inside ICC;

**Raphael Henry** of Tupelo – first place, Television News Story for 2021 ICC Tek2Go Camp;

**Jim Ingram** of Tupelo – second place, Institutional Magazine for Connection;

**Lanie McCaughey** of Hernando – second place, Public Relations Campaign for Home Away from Home TikTok Series;

**Edana Nail** of Fulton – first place, Creative Partners for Ignite the Fight Against Breast Cancer Awareness;

**Jessi Stevenson** of Fulton – first place, Creative Partners for Ignite the Fight Against Breast Cancer Awareness;

**Nina Strother** of Fulton – second place, Public Relations Campaign for ICC eLearning Regional Campaign; second place, Annual Report for 2020-2021 ICC President's Report; first place, Creative Partners for Ignite the Fight Against Breast Cancer Awareness; second place, Institutional Magazine for Connection; second place, New Media for Inside ICC; first place and grand award, Web Page for New ICC Home Page, www.iccms.edu; and third place, Television Spots for Live and Learn Commercial;

**Donna Thomas** of New Albany – second place, Public Relations Campaign for ICC eLearning Regional Campaign; second place, Annual Report for 2021-22 ICC President's Report; first place, Viewbook for Orientation Booklet; third place, News Story for ICC partners with ATS to advance state's technical workforce; first place, Creative Partners for Ignite the Fight against Breast Cancer Awareness; second place, Institutional Magazine for Connection; second place, New Media, for Inside ICC; and first place, Advertisement, for Veterans Day ad;

**Taylor Tutor** of Tupelo – first place, Viewbook for Orientation Booklet; and second place, New Media for Inside ICC;

**Michael Upton** of Belden – first place, Creative Partners for Ignite the Fight Against Breast Cancer Awareness; and second place, Institutional Magazine for Connection; and

**Steven West** of Mantachie – second place, New Media for Inside ICC; first place and grand award, Web Page for New ICC Home Page, www.iccms.edu; and third place, Television Spots for Live and Learn Commercial.

Thomas was also reelected treasurer of the association for 2022-23.

The awards covered work produced during 2021. Both two-year and four-year colleges received awards in separate categories.

They were presented in late May during CPRAM's annual conference, which was in Gulfport this year.

**There is still time to register!**

# FYI

## MAKE A NOTE OF IT

## Fall 2022 Calendar

August 10.....Open Registration-Tupelo (4-7 p.m.)
August 11 .....Open Registration (Fulton and Tupelo)
August 12.....Open Registration (Fulton and Tupelo)
August 15 .....First Day of Classes, Traditional
August 16.....Last Day to Self-Register, Traditional
August 17-19.....Late Registration, Advising Center
August 22 .....First Day of Classes, eLearning
August 23 .....Last Day to Add eLearning Classes First Eight Week
August 23 .....Last Day to Add eLearning Classes Full-Term
September 5 .....Labor Day Holiday
September 28 .....Last Day to Drop Classes wtth 'W' (First Eight-Week eLearning)
September 30.....Last Day to Drop Classes with 'W' (Traditional First Eight-Week Classes)
October 3.....Spring 2023 Class Schedule Availble
October 3-4.....Final Exams (Trad. First Eight-Week Classes)
October 6-13.....Final Exams, eLearning (First Eight-Week Classes)
October 7.....Progress Reports (Traditional Full-Term Day/Night, eLearning)
October 10-11.....Fall Break
October 12 .....First Day of Classes (Traditional Second Eight-Week Classes)
October 13.....Last Day to Add Traditional Second Eight-Week Classes
October 17 .....First Day of Classes (eLearning Second Eight-Week Classes)
First Day of Advising for Spring
Student Evaluation of Instruction Surveys Available
October 18 .....Last Day to Add eLearning Second Eight-Week Classes
November 2 .....Last Day to Drop Classes with 'W'/Withdrawal - eLearning Full-Term Classes
November 7 .....Registration Begins - 2:30 p.m. (Currently-Enrolled Honors College/Allied Health)
November 8 .....Registration Begins - 7:30 a.m. (Currently-Enrolled Sophomores - 24 or more hours)
November 10.....Registration Begins, 7:30 a.m. (Currently-Enrolled Freshmen)
November 14 .....First Day of Class (eLearning Second Four-Week Classe and Last Day to add eLearning Second Four-Week Classes)
November 16 .....First Day of Registration for Adult Learners, Readmission and Transfer Students and December 2022 High School Graduates)

REFLECTING MISSISSIPPI

# King, Craig receive $4,500 MHC grant

*Staff Reports*

Itawamba Community College English instructors Amber King and Dr. Ashley Craig have received a $4,500 grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council for "Reflecting Mississippi: Finding Yourself in Mississippi's Reflection."

"When Amber and I decided to apply for the Mississippi Humanities Council grant, we really thought about the theme "Reflecting Mississippi' meant to us," Craig said. "I grew up in Mississippi, and I know the stereotype of Mississippi. I also know I don't fit that stereotype, but I was unaware until later in my life that I wasn't actually the lone non-stereotype. What Amber and I hope to do with our lecture series is show all the voices Mississippi has to offer. I hope that our students and the surrounding communities can see what it took me so long to see: Mississippi is diverse and complex, and that's exciting and hopeful."

Public events, which will include several speakers and writing competitions and activities, will showcase the diverse culture that is often overlooked in Mississippi, according to Craig.

Speakers will include author Mary Miller, who teaches in the M.F.A. program at The W; Beverly Fatherree, emerita professor of English at Hinds Community College and Welty House docent; Siyha Smith, assistant curator at the Oren Dunn City Museum; L. Sydney Fisher, author; Danny McArthur, reporter for the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal; and Dr. Bridget Smith Pieschel, emerita professor of English and women's studies at The W.

Additional activities will include a Book Club event, creative writing competition and a two-hour celebration in ICC's Fulton Campus Library in April 2023 during which Mississippi-based music will be performed by students interspersed with presentations by the winners of various competitions throughout the year.

"In my 13 years as an instructor, I've seen so many people who couldn't wait to get their education and get out of Mississippi," King said. "They felt different and alone and couldn't see a future for themselves here. But the truth is that Mississippi is a lot more diverse than it seems on the surface. In our series, we want to highlight some of the lesser-known aspects of Mississippi's past and present to show that everyone has a place here. We also want to provide students and community members the tools and the space to tell their own stories, and we are so thankful that the Mississippi Humanities Council and ICC have given us this opportunity." - ***See page nine for the first presentation information.***

# *Administrator of the Year*

# MAACE selects ICC's Patterson

*Staff Reports*

Linzy Patterson of Amory, director of adult education at ICC, has been selected as the recipient of the 2021-22 Mississippi Association of Adult and Community Education Association's Administrator of the Year award.

In January 2018, Patterson joined ICC's Adult Education Department as an instructor at the Amory WIN Center, and in 2019-20, he was transferred to the Belden Center to serve as lead instructor. During this time, he was a member of the state SmartStart professional development committee as well as the TABE Frequently Asked Questions Manual committee. In August 2021, he was promoted to ICC's director of adult education.

Patterson began his professional career with the Amory School district in 2010, serving as a special education instructor along with assistant football, soccer and tennis coach. He was selected as Teacher of the Year for the 2014-16 school year.

Patterson's nominator for the award said, "Having come from a special education background, he is especially sensitive to the needs of those students. He has established connections with community groups, including the Regional Rehabilitation Center and the Lee County Youth Court and brought in psychometrists for assessments for learning disabilities to lead to those students achieving more success.

**Linzy Patterson**

"He is a natural leader. He loves the classroom and misses beng in it, but he still visits and interacts with the students daily. He has a passion for education, but what stands out most is his humor and his positive attitude. Adult education students respect and admire him because he doesn't judge. He meets them where they are and gives them tough love to change their situation and their lives."

Patterson attributed his success to ICC's adult education team. "I am extremely honored to receive this award," he said, "but this is a direct reflection of the program we have at Itawamba Community College. An individual in a leadership/administrative role is only as good as his team, and we have built one of the best teams in the state. I am just so proud to receive this award on behalf of Itawamba Community College's Adult Education program because they are making a difference. For us to receive recognition for all the hard work that goes into helping those within our district day in and day out is humbling."

Patterson also expressed his appreciation to ICC President Dr. Jay Allen for his support of the Adult Education program. "Directors such as Linzy Patterson are what makes ICC such a special place," Allen said. "He takes a personal interest in each student. He knows their stories, and he evaluates and individualizes their keys to success. This award demonstrates that he is changing lives, many of which have had difficult beginnings."

The award was presented during the 2022 annual adult education conference, June 6-8, at the Hilton Jackson. The conference theme was Skills2Strive4: Achieving Excellence in Adult Education.

# MCCFP

***From page four***

She earned both the bachelor's and master's degrees from Mississippi State University. Waters is also a graduate of the Mississippi Community College Leadership Academy, ICC's Leadership Development Institute and the Mississippi Development Authority Ambassador program.

Two participants are nominated by each of the 15 public community college presidents.

The year-long program focus includes four national program pillars: policy, leadership, networking and advocacy, culminating with a trip to Washington, D.C. to advocate specific educational changes and meet with Congressional delegations and members of the Association of Community College Trustees.

www.iccms.edu

## HAPPENING Now

# PTK chapters elect officers

*Staff Reports*

Both Phi Theta Kappa chapters at Itawamba Community College have elected officers for 2022-23.

Officers of the Upsilon Sigma Chapter at the Fulton Campus include Madison Martin of **Belden**, vice president of leadership; Lori Leachman, vice president of scholarship, and Taylor White, vice president of scholarship, both of **Bruce**; Alexis Cocke of **Coldwater**, vice president of membership; Anna Hogan of **Columbus**, vice president of service; Emma Logan, vice president of projects, Marly Moore,vice president of service, and Madison Weaver, vice president of fellowship, all of **Fulton**; Morgan Young of **Houston**, vice president of communications; Emory Reinhard of **Mantachie**, regional officer and vice president of service; Zoe Bigham of **Philadelphia**, vice president of projects; Josh Smith, vice president of fellowship, and Macey Thomas, vice president of leadership, both of **Pontotoc**; Lexi Tabbs of **Red Bay, Ala.**, president; Emma Jackson, vice president of membership, and Abigail Jones, vice president of communications, both of **Ripley**; Hannah McGill, vice president of leadership, and Kenzie Priest, vice president of scholarship, both of **Saltillo**; and Sydney James of **Vicksburg**, vice president of fellowship.

Beta Tau Sigma Chapter officers at the Tupelo Campus are Olivia Dean of **Houston**, vice president of leadership and public relations secretary; Madelyn Young, president; Briana Dent, vice president of fellowship/recording secretary; and Adrian Hester, vice president of scholarship, all of **Tupelo**; and Megan Morgan of **Woodland**, vice president of service.

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievement of students at associate degree-granting colleges and helping them to grow as scholars and leaders. The Society is composed of more than 3.5 million members and nearly 1,300 chapters in 11 nations with approximately 240,000 active members in the nation's colleges.

# *ICC selects Indian Delegation*

*Staff Reports*

ICC has selected members of its Indian Delegation for 2022-23.

They include **Fulton Campus** - Jolie Bishop, Cate Dill, both of **Amory**; Janae Billups of **Baldwyn**; Anna Grace Coomer of **Ecru**; Brady Peacock of **French Camp**; Emma Grace Allen, Connor Foster, Kate Gann, Maddox Hendricks, Marly Moore, Dylan Quinn, all of **Fulton**; Bo Hanna Shackelford, Ruth Allison White, both of **Guntown**; Zoe Bigham of **Louisville**; Ben Moody, Emory Reinhard, both of **Mantachie**; Jordan Springer of **Mooreville**; Madalynn Minica of **Nettleton**; Rylee Ozbirn of **New Albany**; Emma Kate Mask of **Plantersville**; Anna Beth Brown, Marlee Hoing, Stroud Mills, Anna Claire Warren, all of **Pontotoc**; Landon Glover, Lexi Tabbs, both of **Red Bay, Ala.**; Holly Carrington of **Southaven**; Tykez Daniels of **Starkville**; Maly Mae Fitts of **Thaxton**, Laken Hood of **Tupelo**; Kylee James of **Vina, Ala.**; Aubrey Eaton of **Woodland**; and **Tupelo Campus** - Claire Caldwell of **Algoma**; Emily Bush of **Guntown**; Olivia Dean of **Houston**; Morgan Gunter, Karson Mitchell, both of **Pontotoc**; Madison White of **Saltillo**; and Jay Salters of **Tupelo**.

The Indian Delegation is a student recruiting team organized to serve as goodwill ambassadors for ICC. Members are involved in activities directly related to recruiting and public relations, including conducting campus tours, visiting area high schools to recruit, participating in community outreach, attending college days/nights at high schools and assisting with special meetings and events at all three locations. - ***See photo on page ten.***

**Students wait for a snowcone at the Fulton Campus during Welcome Week 2021. - *File photo***

# Welcome Week....Get Involved! *August 14-18*

*Staff Reports*

Itawamba Community College's Student Activities Coordinator Taylor Tutor has planned activities to welcome students at all three locations for the fall semester.

They include

**Belden Center**

**August 15 -** Find Your Classes with Coffee and Donuts, Training Entrance Lobby, 7:30-9 p.m.;

**August 16** - Find Your Classes, Training Entrance Lobby, 7:30-9:30 a.m.;

**August 17** - Block Party - 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Outside Training Entrance;

**August 18** - Block Party, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Outside Training Entrance;

**Fulton Campus**

**August 14** - Movie Night, W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center auditorium, 6 p.m.

**August 15** - Find Your Classes with Coffee and Donuts, Crane Pavilion, 7:30-9 a.m.; Popsicles with Wesley Foundation, Crane Pavilion, noon; Block Party, President's front lawn, 6 p.m.;

**August 16** - Find Your Classes, Crane Pavilion, 7:30-9 a.m.; Lemonade Social with Housing, Crane Pavilion, noon-1 p.m.; BSU Water Party, Band Practice Field, 7:07 p.m.;

**August 17** - Ice Cream Social, Crane Pavilion, noon; Burger and Blues Cookout, Wesley Foundation, 5-7 p.m.;

**Tupelo Campus**

**August 15 -** Find Your Classes with Donuts and Coffee, Academic and Student Center, 7:30-9 a.m.; Ice Cream Social, outside Academic and Student Center, noon;

**August 16** - Find Your Classes, Academic and Student Center, 7:30-9 a.m.; Block Party, outside Academic and Student Center, noon-1 p.m.;

**August 18** - Wesley Foundation, Burger and Blues Cookout, outside Academic and Student Center, noon.

For more information, contact getinvolved@iccms.edu.

# New faculty, staff join ICC family

*Staff Reports*

The ICC family will have new faces when Convocation begins the fall semester on Wednesday.

They include **Student Services** - Taylor Boggs (golf coach), Zackery Collins (Campus Police), Alisha Dimming (Campus Police), Kelly Beth Ernest (softball coach), Dakota Hall (residence hall director), Kristen Hawkins (assistant softball coach), Jacob Hayslip (assistant men's basketball coach), Joshua Hood (Campus Police), Damon Howe (assistant football coach), Kala Hudson (residence hall director), Jackie Marquez (Athletics administrative assistant), Annie McGregor (volleyball coach), Collin Minga (assistant athletic director/compliance officer), William Nabers (Campus Police), Heidi Riley (residence hall director), Caryl Vogel (men's soccer coach), Darrian Wilson (assistant men's basketball coach); **Human Resources and Administration** - Heather Bolton (custodian), Porkchop Falkner (event technician); Cathy Gault (custodian), Willie Gunn (custodian), Tina Harlow (custodian), Rickey Harris (groundskeeper), Corey Jarvis (groundskeeper), Matthew Loden (custodian), Ceciil Lucas (groundskeeper), Mike Mitchell (groundskeeper), Tammy O'Malie (custodian), Chad Price (maintenance technician/electrician), Deborah Riley (custodian), Leslia Rogers (custodian), Trae Speaks (carpenter), Scott Stovall (groundskeeper), Michele Sullivan (custodian), Victoria Whittle (custodian), Bryan Wood (maintenance supervisor); **Enrollment Services** - Madison Haley (recruiter), Tyrani Key (recruiter), Deshanna Martin (admissions record specialist), Hannah Moroney (recruiter), Katelynn Stidham (recruiter), Olga Weatherford (international admissions/admissions specialist); **Business Services** - Shannon Gillentine (staff accountant), Joshua Weaver (programmer); **Instructional Services** - Haley Carpenter (Paralegal Technology director), Scott Emison (Construction Management Technology director), Amanda Entreken (dean of Instructional Services administrative assistant), Masha Laney (history), Lorela Moore (Library technical assistant), Kimberley Poland (Academic Support Center science tutor), Elizabeth Tally (mathematics), Alicia Thornton (Surgical Technology director); **Career and Workforce Education** - Jay Alford (HVAC director), Daphne Jackson (Diagnostic Medical Sonography clinical coordinator), Audra Perry (adult education director), Amanda Stone (Diagnostic Medical Sonography director), Andi Wilhite (Early Childhood Resource and Referral Associate).

Reassignments are Michael Holloway (Recruitment/Orientation director), Lori Little (Advising director), Cristin McCoy (Instructional Services administrative assistant), Paige Kennedy (Instructional Systems Designer), Lauren Inmon (Student Services administrative assistant), Dr. Chad Case (Dean of Students/Athletic Director), Mande Miller (Dean of Advising and Tupelo Campus), Josh Gammill (Continuing Education director), Nathan Ward (Instuctional Support Services director), Rachel Steele (Director of Admissions/Registrar), Holli Tomlinson (psychology), Candace Thomas (Financial Aid assistant director), Kayla Newsome (Early Learning Centers director), and Brittnie Wildmon (student accounts/cashier clerk). ***(See addtional article on Chris Stevenson and Tonya Vaughn, page three.)***

# *Welcome to ICC! The BEST Start HERE!!*

# FYI

## MAKE A NOTE OF IT

### JUST A REMINDER...

## Review lockdown procedures

ICC's faculty, staff and students are urged to review campus lockdown procedures.

"The procedures are meant to be very simple because at the point of a lockdown, the major concern is the safety of all of the individuals in the campus community," said Dr. Brad Boggs, vice president of student services.

Notifications will be communicated via ICC ALERT, email and the Emergency Information Web page.

Upon notification of campus lockdown, everyone must react immediately.

The procedures include

1) Lock all doors and windows.

2) Close all blinds.

3) Turn off lights.

4) Use room furnishings to barricade doors and as protection.

5) Everyone should sit on the floor, away from doors and windows.

6) Make no noise.

7) Remain in lockdown until it is cleared with a notice via ICC ALERT or the police/administrator gives te ALL CLEAR code.

In addition, these are procedures in the event of severe weather conditions or evacuation.

Individuals should check ICC's website, www.iccms.edu, for information. It's located under Campus Safety on the home page.

## Sign up for ICC ALERT

ICC provides a mass notification system called ICC ALERT.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in the free service.

ICC ALERT has been utilized for inclement weather situations when classes and offices were closed due to snow and icing conditions and when storms threatened the area.

To sign up to receive emergency messages through ICC ALERT: 1) Log on to the myTribe portal using your name and password; 2) Click ICC ALERT system in the link section on the bottom right; 3) Log in with your same username and password as myTribe to add/update your information.

For assistance with technical issues, contact the TIS Help Desk at (662) 862-8295 or via email at helpdesk@iccms.edu.

## Litter-free

Everyone is reminded to use trash receptacles for litter. It's up to all of us to show our pride by ensuring that all three locations are litter-free.

## No noise

Unnecessary noise is banned at Itawamba Community College, including loud music, yelling and screaming.

Students who are found guilty of noise violations will be fined, and the fine will double with each successive violation.

## Campus Police

**ICC-Belden...662.687.2752**
**ICC-Fulton...662.687.2750**
**ICC-Tupelo...662.687.2751**

**For more information about ICC emergency procedures... www.iccms.edu**

## *Meritorious award*

**Recipients of ICC's Meritorious award include from left, C.J. Adams, Jim Ingram, Carrie Lindsey, Freddie Tucker, Bradley Howard, Emily Loden-Jones and Robin Lowe. They were presented during a May 6 ceremony at the Fulton Campus.**

# Fatherree to be first presenter in 'Reflecting' series

*Staff Reports*

Beverly Fatherree, emerita professor of English at Hinds Community College and Welty House docent, will present "Eudora Welty: The Writer as a Crusader in Fiction and Photography," Aug. 31 at 6 p.m. in the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center Auditorium at the Itawamba Community College Fulton Campus.

Fatherree taught at Hinds for more than 40 years, beginning as an adjunct instructor in English, moving to a full-time English instructor position for the next 35 years and ending her career as an adjunct instructor in the Writing Center for five years. She retired as the District Curriculum Coordinator for English and the Academic Liaison for Dual Enrollment Instruction. During her time at Hinds, she served on numerous committees, including being named the District Faculty Chair for the Faculty Council and lead editor and writer for several Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation documents. Fatherree has volunteered at the Eudora Welty House in Jackson since it opened in 2005. She has written and performs a one-woman show on Georgia writer Flannery O'Connor. In addition, she serves as historian for the Two-Year College English Association – Southeast of which she has been an active member since her first year of teaching at Hinds. She is married to Dr. Ben Fatherree, a retired professor of history at Hinds, has two daughters and four grandchildren.

**Beverly Fatherree**

The presentation is part of "Reflecting Mississippi: Finding Yourself in Mississippi's Reflection," made possible by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council. Additional presentations are scheduled throughout the fall semester.

# MAACE picksTexada, Wojtylko Students of the Year

Itawamba Community College Adult Education students Jason Texada of Mooreville and Seira Heiss Wojtylko of Tupelo have been selected as Students of the Year by the Mississippi Association of Adult and Community Education.

Texada's nominator for the award described him as "kind and polite to everyone he encounters, both inside and outside the classroom. Jason is a fitting example of determination because he works hard and never gives up no matter what obstacles he faces." When he passed the first part of the high school equivalency test, "we all celebrated in the halls, and he even did a little dance."Texada is affiliated with several churches in the area including Greater Works Outreach, North Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church and New Life Church. An employee of Todd's Big Star, he is the son of Mario and Melissa Shumpert and Jason Texada Sr.

Wojtylko moved to Mississippi from Michigan where she had been collaborating with her father in the field of welding. She enrolled in ICC's adult education program to earn her high school equivalency credential since she had completed only the tenth grade, her nominator said. Since then, she has completed Smart Start with a gold level on the WorkKeys (platinum on two of the three parts), taken the ACT, completed Introduction to Welding and was on track to enter ICC's welding program in August. "Her thirst for knowledge, determination and willingness to do whatever we asked of her are only a few of the qualities that have helped her reach her goals." The daughter of Richard and Michelle Heiss, she is married to Erik Wojtylko.

**Seira Heiss Wojtylko**

**Jason Texada**

***Needed...Chieftain staff members!!***

***Indian Delegation***

**Members of ICC's Indian Delegation pose for a picture during a recent three-day retreat. See story on page eight.**

# *101 ICC student-athletes earn MACCC honors*

*Staff Reports*

The Mississippi Association of Community Colleges Conference has recognized 101 ICC student-athletes as academic honors recipients.

The two separate honors include Distinguished Academic All-MACCC (3.80 or higher GPA) and Academic All-MACCC (3.25-3.79 GPA).

Distinguished Academic All-MACCC honorees include

**Brandon** - Hannah Henry; **Columbus** - Brooklyn Ward; **Ecru** - Tayler Bishop; **Fulton** - Quinn Bennett, Emma Logan; **Guntown** - Kaitie Boatner; **Hatley** - Camron Wright; **Horn Lake** - Blake Berry; **Madison** - Maloy Mitchell, Peyton Rea; **Madrid, Spain** - David Marquez; **Mantee** - Allyson Harrison; **Morton** - Lexi Brown; **Olive Branch** - Londyn Bakeris, Rhett Gullett, Connor Murphy; **Oxford** - Maria Jones; **Pontirolo Nuovo, Italy** - Gia del Sordo; **Pontotoc** - Madelyn Angle, Reed Emison; **Ripley** - Jhasiel Bautista, Drew Coombs, Amelya Hatch; **Southaven** - Landon Powell; **Sul Piave, Italy** - Martina Coghetto; **Tupelo** - Izzy Boyd, Katie Hammock, Madison Martin, Caleb Goddard, Carson O'Daniel; **Wiggins** - Caleb Beech and **Yorkshire, England** - Kirsty MacGregor.

The Academic All-MACCC honorees include

**Aberdeen** - Hannah McNeese; **Ackerman** - Tylan Carter; **Amory** - Kathryn Cooke, Corbin Martin, Morgan Mitchell; **Boaz, Ala.** - Lydia Hitchcock; **Byhalia** - Yaphet Hearn, JB Purvis; **Calhoun City** - Jobi Cook; **Chicago, Ill.** - Fred Cleveland Jr.; **Cleveland** - Hayes Holman, Madison Jenkins; **Clinton** - Morgan Ray; **Collierville, Tenn.** - Riley Davis; **Columbus** - Braylen Miller; **Corinth** - Demontra Bell, Nate Drewry, McKenzie Patterson, Kate Nakagawa; **Covington, Tenn.** - Mary Leslie Cranford; **Ecru** - Corley Hooper; **Ellisville** - Matthew Martinloich; **Eupora** - Belle Powell; **Fulton** - Wade Cannon, Genise Dabbs, Reese Ruth; **Grenada** - Jadarius Steen; **Holly Springs** - Dylan King; **Independence** - RJ Wilson; **Kosciusko** - Nolen Yuille; **Lake Cormorant** - JJ Daniels; **Lima, Peru** - Rhonzo Olaechea; **Mooreville** - Will Armistead, Jewel Johns, Kara Hays; **Murfreesboro, Tenn.** - Javon Edwards; **Myrtle** - Sarah Kate Thompson; **New Albany** - Vakeria Jett; **Olive Branch** - Nadia Gillespie, Shane Lasher; **Poncha-toula, La.** - Collin Babin; **Pontotoc** - Stroud Mills, Russell Moorman, Sam Morgan, Maggie Franks, Rock Robinson, Demetria Shephard; **Ruleville** - Tykirra Nash; **Saltillo** - Jack Herring, Brianna Huckaby, Houston Walker, Aidan Nipp; **Sardis** - Rayne Rippee; **Southaven** - Connar Gardner, LaMaya Newsome; **Springville, Ala.** - Emily Robinson; **Tupelo** - Madison Copeland, Campbell Kellett, Chloe Walker, Hughes Powell, Eric Velazquez, Jackson Feather, Sydney Ostrander; **Tuscumbia, Ala.** - Caroline Clark; **Walls** - Angie Gonzalez; **Water Valley** - Elena Thompson; **West Point** - Frank Bean, Roe Ketchum; and **Yazoo City** - Chloe Edwards.

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ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Itawamba Community College is a two-year public-supported institution dedicated to providing high quality educational opportunities that are accessible and affordable for the diverse needs of Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe and Pontotoc counties.

Itawamba Community College fulfills its mission through (1) College-parallel, technical and career programs to prepare students to transfer or enter the workforce; 2) Continuing education and workforce pathways for individuals striving for professional growth or personal enrichment; 3) Strategic partnerships to provide student opportunities, meet business and industry needs and promote economic development; 4) Adult education programs committed to increasing the literacy level of the adult population, providing self-improvement opportunities, workforce readiness and/or high school equivalency; 5) Resources, including financial, physical and technological to advance educational purpose as well as traditional and online instructional services, student support services and business management; 6) Recruitment and employment of qualified personnel as well as provide ongoing opportunities for leadership training and professional growth to improve skills of faculty and staff; and 7) Services and student engagement opportunities to promote leadership growth and success in educational, career and personal goals.

Candidates for admission to academic and career education programs may be admitted by diploma - students are required to present an official transcript from a high school accredited by the appropriate state or regional accreditation association; by completing the appropriate number of Carnegie units; by successfully completing the high school equivalency test- students are required to have an official copy of the high school equivalency transcript mailed to the Registrar/Director of Admissions; by advanced standing (college transfer students). Students graduating without a regular diploma (Occupational Diploma or Special Education Diploma) must successfully complete the high school equivalency test in order to be eligible for admission to Itawamba Community College. Some career education programs may have selective criteria for admission.

Itawamba Community College is an equal opportunity institution. The College strictly prohibits discrimination in its educational programs and activities, employment practices and admissions processes on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion,ethnicity, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran or other status protected by applicable law. For more information, contact the Vice President of Student Services , 602 West Hill Street, Fulton, MS 38843, 662.862.8271, or email TitleIXCoordinator@iccms.edu.

In compliance with Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Itawamba Community College makes available its curricular and extracurricular programs and facilities to every qualified person regardless or race, sex, color, creed,national origin or disability.

Itawamba Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges, to award associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.670.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Itawamba Community College.

*www.iccms.edu*

**Get involved!**

**Join a club or organization at ICC!**

#thebeststarthere

ICC was selected among the top community colleges in America by Aspen; ICC started the C.O.R.E. program this year in partnership with the Mississippi Highway Patrol; Members of the Homecoming Court were presented during the September 23 ceremony.

# 2021-22 In Review

ICC selected the members of its prestigious Leadership Development Institute; The College received a STEM grant from the AACC; ICC formally opened the SIM Lab at the Tupelo Campus; Ultrasound Technology will be reopened this year as Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

## *Ball-Williamson retires*

# Case named Dean of Students, Athletic Director

*Staff Reports*

Dr. Chad Case, ICC director of housing and residence life for the last 13 years, has been named Dean of Students and Athletic Director, effective July 1.

Case began his new duties following the retirement of Carrie Ball-Williamson whose career included women's basketball and softball coach and athletic director.

In his new combined role, Case will assume Ball-Williamson's duties while overseeing athletic student discipline, the ICC Fitness Center and club sports.

Clinton native Case, who was hired in 2002, served as an assistant baseball coach under current Indian head coach Rick Collier before taking over as head softball coach in 2008.

**Chad Case**

In 2010, he was named Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges North Division Coach of the Year after leading the Indians to the program's first-ever North Division Championship and back-to-back National Junior college Athletic Association Region 23 tournament appearances. He finished his four-year coaching career with an overall record of 103 wins and 47 losses.

**Carrie Ball-Williamson**

Case's program ranked among the nation's leaders in grade point average with several players earning MACJC and NJCAA academic honors. Also, his teams were valuable members of the community through numerous service projects.

Ball-Williamson coached the Lady Indians basketball team for 13 seasons before stepping down to serve as full-time athletic director. Her honors have included the 2011 NJCAA Loyalty Award for exemplary leadership, both on-and off-the-field and induction into the 2012 ICC Athletic Hall of Fame and the 2014 Mississippi Association of Junior and Community Colleges Sports Hall of Fame. She earned Coach of the Year honors twice in basketball while guiding her Lady Indians to two North Division titles. Her softball teams won three North Division championships and one state title. She also served as the College's director of student activities for 10 years.

# Minga selected as first-ever ICC compliance officer

*Staff Reports*

Former ICC baseball standout Collin Minga of Corinth has begun his duties as assistant athletic director and compliance coordinator.

"We are excited to add Collin to our outstanding athletic staff," said ICC President Dr. Jay Allen. "I feel like this new role will be a vital position in helping take all of our athletic programs to the next level, both in the classroom and in their respective sports."

"I'm super excited for this opportunity to step into this role," Minga said. "I look forward to helping Dr. (Chad) Case in assisting our student-athletes to succeed on and off the courts and fields while building off what Coach (Ball-Williamson) has already been doing at ICC for many, many years."

Minga was both a math teacher and assistant baseball coach at Corinth High School. He also had stops at Tupelo High School where he was an Algebra II teacher and assistant baseball coach and at Itawamba AHS where he taught Foundations of Algebra and served as an assistant baseball and soccer coach.

In 2010, the Mantachie native worked as an intern under both Ball-Williamson at ICC and Eddie Moore at Tupelo High School while finishing his Master of Science degree in sports administration at Arkansas State University.

As Assistant Athletic Director and Compliance Coordinator, Minga will be responsible for assisting in initiatives that promote institutional and departmental integrity and compliance as it relates to intercollegiate athletics. He will work alongside the ICC Sports Information Department on athletic branding and closely with the ICC Alumni and Foundation office to enhance athletic fundraising.

**Collin Minga**

# Three new head coaches take over programs

**Taylor Boggs**

**Kelly Beth Ernest**

**Caryl Vogel**

*Staff Reports*

Itawamba Community College has hired three new head coaches during the summer. They include Taylor Boggs, golf; Caryl Vogel, men's soccer and Kelly Beth Ernest, softball.

### Taylor Boggs

Boggs was the student academic coach at Delta State University, where from 2018-20 he served as graduate assistant while earning his master's degree in sports management. He has also spent time with the Mississippi Golf Association where he helped with tournament operations and is familiar with the Mississippi Association of Community Colleges Conference after spending a summer as an Athletic Adviser intern at Northwest Mississippi Community College in 2017. As a player, Boggs was a standout for Itawamba Agricultural High School where he helped win three Mississippi High School Athletic Association Class 4A State Championships in 2009, 10 and 11. After high school, Boggs signed with the University of Louisiana-Monroe where he played two seasons before transferring to ICC to earn an associate degree. He earned the bachelor's degree in kinesiology: sports studies business.

### Kelly Beth Ernest

Ernest returns to Fulton after spending last season as the assistant coach at Delta State University. Prior to her time in Cleveland, she served as a volunteer assistant to Coach Andy Kirk, whom she replaces. That season, the Indians finished 36-9 and ranked No. 5 in the country. The Selmer, Tenn. native played collegiately at Harding University and Blue Mountain College. While at Harding, Ernest was ranked fifth in the Great American Conference and second in the NCAA DII with 10 saves while finishing fourth in the GAC with 42 strikeouts. Ernest has also served as head coach of the Southaven Blue Angels, 16U and 18U fast pitch softball teams, Corinth's American Freedom 14U and 16U and the Arkansas Blast 12U team. She earned both the bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from Blue Mountain College.

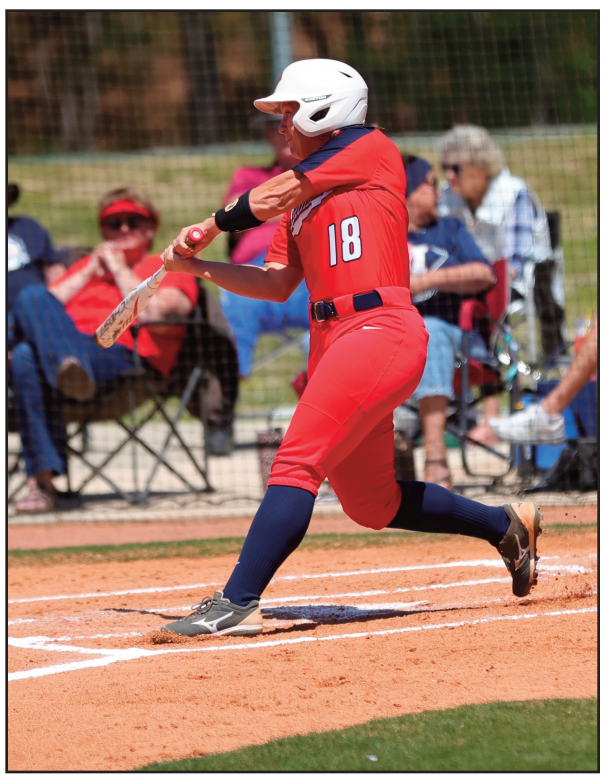
### Caryl Vogel

Vogel takes over in Fulton after helping establish the soccer program and spending the last season as the first coach of the men's soccer program at Blue Mountain. He is the fifth coach in the history of the ICC program. The Pontotoc native started his coaching career at New Albany High School in 2012. He finished with a career record of 137-81-12. The Bulldogs finished North Half runner-up during 2019. He was selected as 2017 Mississippi Association of Coaches Boys North All-Star Coach. Vogel played two seasons and served as team captain under former head coach Mike Sullivan, whom he replaced.

#RollTribe

# 2021-22...What a year in sports!

From left, ICC head softball coach Andy Kirk announced his retirement effective at the end of the 2022 season, Haylee Alberson bats for the Indians, who attained their first-ever national ranking this season; Annie McGregor of Pontotoc was named volleyball's second head coach (photo by Adam Robison, Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal).



## HIGHLIGHTS

•**Men's basketball** qualified for the NJCAA Region 23 tournament, and Fred Cleveland Jr. earned All-MACCC postseason honors. Two players signed Division 1 scholarships to Mississippi Valley State (Tyronn Mosley and Walter Hamilton).

•**Women's basketball** advanced to MACCC and NJCAA Region 23 tournaments. Amelya Hatch was named MACCC Player of the Week once, and Demetria Shephard was named to both the NJCAA All-Region 23 Tournament team as well as the NJCAA All-Region 23 team.

•Two ICC **football** players earned MACCC Player of the Week honors, Dylan Faulk and Eric Watts, who was also named NJCAA Player of the Week.

•Two **golf** players qualified for the NJCAA District D tournament, Landry Miller and Rhett Gullett.

•**Men's soccer** advanced to the semifinals of the MACCC tournament, and two players earned MACCC Player of the Week honors.

•**Women's soccer** advanced to the MACCC tournament quarterfinals.

•**Softball** earned the program's and the school's first-ever No. 1 ranking from the NJCAA. So far this season, two players were named MACCC Player of the Week – Haylee Alberson and McKenzie Patterson. Alberson was also selected as NJCAA Player of the Week. Coach Andy Kirk announced his retirement for the end of the season. So far, one player, Madison Jenkins, has signed to play at the next level (Delta State).

•**Women's tennis** clinched a playoff spot and will compete in the MACCC tournament.

•**Volleyball** finished as the best in the MACCC and advanced to the NJCAA Gulf District tournament. Two players signed to the next level, a program first – Mary Leslie Cranford – UT-Martin and Londyn Bakeris – Millsaps. Annie McGregor was named as the program's second head coach.

## Itawamba Community College Sports...

### ON THE SCHEDULE

**FOOTBALL**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 9.01 | @Jones College | 6:30 p.m. |
| 9.08 | MS Gulf Coast | 6:30 p.m. |
| 9.15 | Northeast | 6:30 p.m. |
| 9.22 | @Northwest | 7 p.m. |
| 9.29 | @MS Delta | 2:30 p.m. |
| 10.06 | Holmes | 6:30 p.m. |
| 10.13 | Hinds | 6:30 p.m. |
| 10.22 | @East Miss. | 2 p.m. |
| 10.27 | Coahoma | 6:30 p.m. |

**MEN'S SOCCER**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8.19 | @MS Gulf Coast | 5 p.m. |
| 8.23 | @East Central | 3 p.m. |
| 8.26 | Pearl River | 4 p.m. |
| 8.28 | Mineral Area | 2 p.m. |
| 8.30 | Andrew College | 3 p.m. |
| 9.02 | Bethel | 2:30 p.m. |
| 9.09 | Hinds | 4 p.m. |
| 9.13 | Meridian | 2 p.m. |
| 9.16 | Southwest Miss. | 4 p.m. |
| 9.23 | @Co-Lin | 3 p.m. |
| 9.27 | MS Gulf Coast | 3 p.m. |
| 9.30 | @Meridian | 5 p.m. |

**WOMEN'S SOCCER**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8.22 | Southwest Tenn. | 3 p.m. |
| 8.28 | Mineral Area | Noon |
| 8.31 | @Oakwood | 6 p.m. |
| 9.02 | @SW Tenn. | 6 p.m. |
| 9.06 | @Dyersburg St. | 5 p.m. |
| 9.09 | Hinds | 2 p.m. |
| 9.12 | @Motlow St. | 4 p.m. |
| 9.16 | SW Miss. | 2 p.m. |
| 9.18 | Columbia St. | 3 p.m. |
| 9.23 | @Co-Lin | 1 p.m. |
| 9.27 | MS Gulf Coast | 2 p.m. |
| 9.30 | @Meridian | 7 p.m. |

**VOLLEYBALL**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8.16 | Frontier | 5 p.m. |
| 8.20 | @SE Illinois | Noon |
| 8.20 | Frontier (SE Ill.) | 2 p.m. |
| 8.21 | @SE Illinois | 10 a.m. |
| 8.21 | @Wabash Valley | Noon |
| 8.23 | @Bevill State | 3 p.m. |
| 9.06 | @MUW | 5 p.m. |
| 9.07 | Pearl River | 5 p.m. |
| 9.10 | Snead State | Noon |
| 9.11 | Pearl River @MUW Invit. | 1 p.m. |
| 9.13 | Gulf Coast St. @Pensacola Christian | 2 p.m. |

***Follow ICC athletics...LetsGoICC.com or on Twitter...@LetsGoICC***

**Itawamba Community College graduates participate in one of three commencement ceremonies, May 13, in the Davis Event Center at the Fulton Campus.**

# More than 600 graduate during three ICC ceremonies

More than 600 Itawamba Community College graduates crossed the stage at the Davis Event Center on the Fulton Campus May 13 during three commencement ceremonies and were rewarded with Associate of Arts or Associate of Applied Science degrees or certificates.

They were among more than 1,000 graduates who have earned degrees from ICC this year, including Kelly Jo Ashley of New Albany, who participated during the 5 p.m. health sciences ceremony.

Ashley, who was a certified elementary teacher for 11 years, began the Associate Degree Nursing program during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. "None of us knew what to expect," she said. "However as I reflect on the past two years at ICC, I am beyond thankful to the faculty, staff and all other support personnel who not only made this journey possible, but who helped us to grow and learn as future nurses and people. I would not be the person I am today without everything I have learned and experienced during these two years at ICC, and for that I will be eternally grateful." The wife and mother of three, Ashley, who was selected to ICC's Hall of Fame, is a member of the prestigious Phi Theta Kappa honor society as well as nursing organizations and is engaged in her church and her community.

In his remarks during all three ceremonies, ICC President Dr. Jay Allen acknowledged the importance, not only of nurses, but also of all healthcare professionals. "Community colleges, such as ICC are on the front line of helping people realize their potential: academically, personally and professionally. And, when we succeed and do our best in connecting with students, we help them to recognize and embrace the potential within themselves. In addition, numerous ICC graduates, both past and current, and especially in the last two years, those who are healthcare professionals, have gone above and beyond during the pandemic. We salute you!"

> "I would not be the person I am today without everything I have learned and experienced..."

During the first two ceremonies at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Associate of Arts and Associate of Applied Science degrees and certificates were awarded.

To Haley Dean of Saltillo, president of the Fulton Campus Student Government Association and Miss ICC, "Commencement means a day for students to be celebrated by their family and friends for all their long hours of studying, hard work and achievements."

And what a celebration it was, as ICC returned to normal activities and events. It was a bittersweet event for those who crossed that stage."ICC is endless opportunities, relationships that will last a lifetime and a faculty and staff who care about my success in and out of the classroom, Dean said. "There has never been a time that I questioned if I belonged at ICC. It is home away from home, and I know I am fully equipped for the next level in my education due to my experiences at ICC."

Tupelo Campus Student Government Association treasurer Richard Stone III of Tupelo, who participated in the 2 p.m. ceremony, agrees. "Commencement is the celebration of the commitment which students have made to ourselves and our futures, and it marks the beginning of a new journey in which we take the skills and knowledge learned at ICC to go further toward fulfilling who we are as individuals. But ICC is more than just the knowledge which we have acquired. It is a family which we have become a part of, and so as we celebrate, we acknowledge that this moment is bittersweet."

Pins were also presented to the graduates of the Occupational Therapy Assistant, Physical Therapy Assistant Technology, Radiologic Technology, Surgical Technology and Associate Degree Nursing programs during the 5 p.m. ceremony.

Faculty marshals included Dr. Toni Armstrong, Associate Degree Nursing instructor; Tanya Cox and Doris McCreary, both Computer Information Systems instructors.